

AREA 2 DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES BOARD

MEETING MINUTES for SEPTEMBER 10, 2009

Far Northern Regional Center, Redding

MEMBERS PRESENT

Stephen Concklin
Stephen Martin
Jean Phillips
Colleen Ryberg
Steven Sharpe
Leroy Shipp
Larry Stevens
Mike Yalow

MEMBERS ABSENT

Kimber Stanford

STAFF PRESENT

Robin Keehn, AB2 Ex. Director
Sarah May, LQA Project Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT

Alan Kerzin, SCDD Ex. Director
Laura Larson, FNRC
Margaret Shipp, Parent & REI Sec.
Debbie Anderson, Parent (Plumas Co)
Wesley Brown, Parent (Shasta Co)
Michael Cooke, Consumer (Tehama Co)
Marie Blair, Consumer (Shasta Co)
Michelle Phillips, Consumer (Glenn Co)
Andrew Cummins, Consumer (Tehama Co)
Kat Lowrance, Ex. Director - RFENC
Verdine Mertines, Family Member (Tehama Co)
Cindi Freshour, WCALF
Destinee Dale, WCALF
Barbie Sartain, WCALF

I. CALL TO ORDER – September 10, 2009 – 10:00a.m. - Leroy Shipp, Chair

A. Introductions

B. Announcements – Larry Stevens shared that on September 14, 2009 will be a Free Vision Screening and Expo coordinated by Vision Gateway at the Paradise Veterans Hall – FREE EVENT!

C. Public Input – Stephen Martin is formally resigning from AB2 effective immediately as he is moving his family to Indiana in October, 2009. They will be starting a new life and living in a 100 year old farm house and plans on continuing his advocacy work. Stephen is requesting a letter of support from AB2.

MOTION – To accept Stephen Martin's resignation and AB2 write a letter of support.

M/S/C – M. Yalow/S. Sharpe/Passed Unanimously

Robin brought a candle in memory and recognition of Merryann Fricke. The candle was lit during the meeting in Merryann's memory and spirit of her contributions.

Margaret Shipp expressed her support towards AB2's Strategic Plan and its process.

2. ACTION ITEMS – Leroy Shipp, Chair

***A. Approval of Agenda** adding Glen Pollock to 2D for an additional waiver request for FNRC.

MOTION - That agenda be approved as amended.

M/S/C - M. Yalow / S. Sharpe / Passed Unanimously

***B. Approval of June 4 & 5 Minutes** -

MOTION – The minutes be approved as written.

M/S/C – M. Yalow / S. Sharpe / Passed Unanimously

***C. Approval of 2009/2010 Meeting Calendar** –

Discussion of next Board meeting included the request to return to 2 day meetings.

MOTION – Approval of the revised meeting calendar returning to 2 day meetings.

M/S/C - S. Sharpe/ M. Yalow / Passed -1 Abstain (L. Stevens)

***D. FNRC Conflict of Interest Waiver Requests-**

MOTION- Approval of FNRC Conflict of Interest Waiver for Dorothy Lindauer.

M/S/C - M. Yalow/S. Sharpe/Passed Unanimously

MOTION – Approval of FNRC Conflict of Interest Waiver for Glen Pollock.

M/S/C - M. Yalow/S. Sharpe/Passed Unanimously

3. CHAIR REPORT – Leroy Shipp, Chair

- A.** Leroy reported that Butte County Board of Supervisors wrote a letter to the Senate and Assembly Health and Human Services Committees, after a presentation by the Butte County Coordinating Council, encouraging support for organizations providing services to persons with disabilities. He passed out a copy of the letter from Senator Alquist.

Mike Yalow reported on the last SCDD Board meeting, as he attended in Leroy's absence. He shared the Council is focusing on communication between Area Boards and the State Council and formed a committee to explore/improve overall communication. He also reported that the LQA Project has been extended to 12/31/2009, "Winding Down" period. Mike shared DDS's perspective on the LQA Project and the planning for the new Quality Assurance Project. Mike reported that the budget was a huge discussion, as well as legislative policy and strategic planning. He shared that the meeting was "overwhelming and informative." Mike shared the concerns around transportation expenses and challenges!

- B.** Officer Elections – Lengthy discussion of Officer requirements, including interpretation of standards as stated in the Lanterman Act. Discussion included the need for the By-Laws to be revisited and revised to be consistent with the language in the Lanterman Act. Leroy passed out ballot, members voted, results were tallied and announced.

MOTION – To approve new AB2 Officers: Leroy Shipp – Chair; Steven Sharpe- Vice Chair; Jean Phillips -2nd Vice Chair; Colleen Ryberg – Secretary.

M/S/C - M. Yalow/J. Phillips/Passed Unanimously

- C.** By-Law Review – Discussion of By-Laws and committee formed to review and revise. Members include: Mike Yalow, Verdine Mertines, Margaret Shipp, Wesley Brown and Steven Sharpe. Robin will coordinate committee meeting for October, 2009.

- D.** New & Interested Board Member Introductions – Leroy introduced new and interested Board Members:

Stephen Concklin – Newly appointed representative for Siskiyou County. Stephen was employed at Shasta College since 1977 (retired in May 2008) where he started the Transition Program. He has been a strong advocate for post-secondary education opportunities for students with developmental disabilities and served on many state-wide committees. Stephen is a dedicated grandfather, former Chair of Shasta County Coordinating Council and remains an active advocate for his grandson and the developmental disability field.

Marie Blair – Shasta County, consumer and self advocate. Marie is an artist, community volunteer for a local service provider agency and formally recommended by Shasta County Coordinating Council (SCCC) to serve as Shasta County Representative to the Area 2 Board.

MOTION – To accept SCCC's recommendation that Marie Blair serve as Shasta County's Representative to the Area 2 Board.

M/S/C – S. Sharpe/L. Stevens/Passes Unanimously

Robert Wesley Brown – Shasta County, father of a child with Autism. Wesley is interested in applying for a Governor's Appointment. Wesley has a passion for public service, reviewed his experience, education and shared he has a strong para-legal background.

Debbie Anderson – Plumas County, mother of an adult consumer. Debbie is interested in the County Representative for Plumas County. She reviewed her education, experience and is currently the Director for Special Olympics for Plumas County.

Verdine Mertines – Tehama County, sister of an adult. Verdine has an application into the Governor's office for appointment. She has served on the AB2 and was the past Chair. Verdine is currently the Chair of Tehama County Coordinating Council. She reviewed her experience and dedication to the developmental disability field.

Michael Cooke – Tehama County, consumer and self-advocate. Michael is interested in a Governor's Appointment. Michael was the former President of California People First and remains an active advocate. He has completed the Governor's application form but needs a letter of recommendation from the community to complete the application process.

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT - Robin Keehn

Robin reviewed activities and projects outlined in the Board packet. She reported on recent statewide phone conference calls: Caltrans regional forums looking at collaboration between the Public and "human service agency" transportation; and, the Ca. Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Coalition talking about system funding, legislation and budget impacts to services including IHSS, community colleges, ADHC, Olmsted, Caregiver Resource Centers, housing and many issues shared by the DD system.

Mini Grant - Robin reviewed the projects and the process used by AB2 to award past Mini-Grants in our region. Each Area Board will have \$10,000 available for this fiscal year. Robin reviewed a proposed RFP, application process, project timelines and asked for direction from the Board. Process and timelines were approved as presented. The Board will review the applications and make selections at its November Board meeting. Robin will prepare a summary and rating chart for the Mini-Grant proposals received

08-09 Final Expenditure Reports - Robin reviewed the BSG and LQA final expenditure reports.

Other – Robin shared information and invited Board members to attend upcoming events: Hingsburger workshop, BCCC Recognition Celebration and Focus Film Festival. She shared highlights of advocacy calls, Emergency Preparation Fair at Shasta College and travels to our mountain communities meeting agencies and talking about the budget.

5. ROWELL FAMILY EMPOWERMENT OF NO. CA. (RFENC) – Kat Lowrance, Ex. Director

Kat gave a power point presentation about RFENC including their mission and vision statement, as well as, overview of their many project and programs. RFENC serves 25 Counties in Northern California. She reviewed their mandates, services, resources, and education and training opportunities for parents. Kat shared their funding mechanisms, advocacy resources and overall function in the community.

6. WE CARE A LOT FOUNDATION – Cindi Freshour, Destinee Dale, Barbie Sartain

Cindi, with the assistance of Destinee and Barbie shared a power point presentation on the agencies mission and projects. The agency includes three departments: Legacy Homes, Adventures In Business and the Regional Self-Advocacy Project. The departments were thoroughly described as well as reviewing new projects in the works. WCALF is funded through Far Northern Regional Center and has an office in Redding and Chico. WCALF is managed by Tammy Torum, who will be honored at this year's 2009 Inclusion Celebration in Sacramento!

7. STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES- Alan Kerzin, Ex. Director

Alan welcomed the Board Members, newly appointed and interested community members! He also congratulated Robin on her appointment as AB2's Executive Director! Alan facilitated a power point presentation on the Federal and State Responsibilities of the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities and the roles of SCDD/Area Boards. He also shared how the all Area Boards are going through the Strategic Planning Process and its' purpose and function in relation to the State Plan. Alan discussed Bill AB287 and SCDD's commitment to this Bill.

8. FAR NORTHERN REGIONAL CENTER – Laura Larson, Ex. Director

Laura reported that FNRC sent out 800 Notices of Proposed Action and reviewed service suspensions. She also reviewed the current budget picture, services affected and strategies to adjust to the changing system changes. Laura noted FNRC funding has been reduced by \$6 million for 09/10 fiscal year. Laura reviewed the sections of the Welfare and Institutions Code that were amended by Assembly Bill 9, adopted on July 28, 2009. A draft of the Individual Choice Budget Model was distributed and reviewed.

Laura reviewed the informal/formal hearing process. FNRC is encouraging individuals and families to exercise their right to appeal. She reviewed the current eligibility criteria and the changes. Laura shared that FNRC is developing contracts with community dental clinics for consumers to receive dental services, since Medi-Cal no longer cover dental services for adults. FNRC has contracts with Shasta County Health Clinic and Hill Country Health Clinic so far and hopes for many more! Laura emphasized the importance of AB2's advocacy and functions, especially with the changing system and fiscal reductions.

9. STRATEGIC PLANNING “PLAN” – All Board Members

Robin informed the Board members that Diana Ramirez, SCDD and Michael Rosenberg, Executive Director of AB3, will be coming on November 12th to facilitate Strategic Planning with AB2. She also reviewed the Vision and Mission Statement and the next steps of the planning process.

Vision Statement - People feel free to dream and are recognized as valued, contributing members of their community.

Mission Statement - Area 2 Board advocates for the legal, civil and service rights of people with developmental disabilities and their families to promote genuine; education, employment, relationships and community inclusion. Adopted June 5, 2009

Robin facilitated a brainstorming session with the Board who developed a “bucket list” of priority areas for AB2's for strategic planning, based on our Vision and Mission Statements.

We first focused on “how” we accomplish our Mission:

- Advocate
- Educate – training and conferences
- Solution Driven – have back up plan
- Outreach – who needs what, how do we find out
- Create Opportunities – choice, building connections

We then talked about “What is Genuine”:

- Self fulfilling...meaningful, respectful, self awareness, knowing your strength
- Choice...local decision making/makers, self fulfilling, meaningful
- Education...self fulfilling, meaningful
- Employment/Community Service...contributions, self fulfilling, meaningful, being proud of your accomplishments
- Relationships...non-paid, reciprocal, respectful, non-abusive, complementary
- Community Inclusion...tied with our Vision, involves people having the will and self confidence to “live what you want” “create your *own box*, without fitting into one”

10. COUNTY PEPORITS – All Board Members

Steven Sharpe, Butte County, reported on Gridley's People First Chapter.

Jean Phillips, Glenn County, reported that Orland celebrated their 100 years!

Mike Yalow, Glenn County, expressed his interest in transportation projects for Glenn County.

Stephen Martin, Shasta County, reported on his IEP advocacy for families in Shasta County and his preparations to make their big move to Indiana.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:40 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: November 12th and 13th at FNRC – Chico